

## FOR FRIENDSHIP'S SAKE

by Clayton C. Campbell

— "AND THEY GAVE THANKS."

Never a harvest season approaches but we feel anew the necessity and the privilege of offering thanks for the many blessings we have received. Well filled barns, bulging bins and fat cattle testify to the bounties of nature. The land has smiled. The yellowing moon looks down upon a grateful people.

Last week in Paris our diplomats wrote FINIS to a peace conference. The meeting was marked by bickering, by misunderstanding and by wily intrigue. Yet the picture is not all black. For it is with us, the people of the world, that the real hope for a peaceful friendly future lies. The peace will be as lasting as we are alert to dangers that would destroy it.

Let us express our gratitude for what we have as Americans; for those unlimited opportunities we hold to relight the beacon of faith and hope in a muddled, distrustful, unfriendly world. Let us give thanks that we may serve others and hence serve ourselves.

Our apologies for missing the October issue. Since assuming our duties as Professor of English Literature and Public Speaking at the University of Missouri School of Mines, time has become a scarce article. However, we hope to greet you in each issue of VILTIS hence forward. We welcome correspondence from any Viltites hereabouts. The address is 1100 Main Rolla, Missouri.

### NEW BOOKS

by Clayton C. Campbell

EARTH COULD BE FAIR

Pierre Van Paassen. Dial Press \$3.75

Few books have recently appeared that leave as strong an impression on the discriminating readers as this chronicle of Gorcum, a small town in the Netherlands. But it is more than the story of Gorcum — it is the story of many cities. It is the story of the turbulent history of the twentieth century.

Divided into two sections this book relates the story of Van Paassen's early life; tells of the growing up of these people through the end of one century into the promise and fear of a new century. It moves along like an exciting novel with most of a good novel's characteristics. The hopes fears and motives of these fighting Dutchmen are powerfully mirrored and indicate the direction their efforts are taking in the formation of a better world.

Don't miss this book; it will make your leisure moments exciting and inspiring.

### NOOK of POETRY ...

I TINK I STAY WITH UNCLE SAM

L. E. Possien

Christoph Columb he come in 1492,  
He maka nisa place for me and for you.  
I come myself 1872 it's long ago.  
I open ze stand maka plenty mon.  
Sometime plenty trouble, sometimes mucha fun.  
My child isa big boy now, he's go to school,  
Tony, my biga boy, he no too mucha fool.  
He play football, baseball, he runa too,  
He be champ some day I betcha you.  
America he's a gooda place to stay,  
But sometime I tink of Italy, but he's too far away.  
I'm getta old and gray now, what I'm gonna do?  
I tink I stay with Uncle Sam justa like you.

### WHITE COLLAR

Converse Harwell

I busily engage trifling office machine,  
And clutter paper with idiotic figures,  
Or write imbecilic messages by the day;  
Inside air stifles me to sterility.

At my desk in ease and comfort I recline,  
Sheltered from outside season's change,  
Interference and noise from me screened;  
Except clacking machine eating my heart.

My mind is caged and the body suppressed,  
Muscles dwindle and bring me no delight,  
A cooped-up existence my manhood drains;  
Reverie is disturbed by officious busybody.

I could endure this office job bravely,  
Did I not see you through the window,  
Go your way in sun and wind and rain;  
Minus brain-fag and hardened by work.

### LIMERICKS

Burton Lawrence

"I've a corn on my foot", said McFee,  
"On the ball of my right foot", said he;  
"A hard place to salve it,  
But good place to have it:  
No one can step on it but me."

There's a very strict club in Gilgore,  
Where the members get easily sore.  
One poor old bloke  
Had an apoplectic stroke  
Which they made him include in his score.

How lovely this maiden of Sharefoot  
As she stood all alone at the stairfoot.  
The toast of the town.  
If she had her gown  
Cut any lower she'd be barefoot.

Alas and alack, poor Miss Puddle  
Always is hoping to cuddle;  
But she'll get no place  
With her football face:  
Her features are all in a huddle.

### FOR LIETUVA'S FREEDOM

An All-Chicago Lithuanian conference was held at the Lithuanian Auditorium on Sunday afternoon and evening, September 29th. Delegates from every Chicago Lithuanian organization met. The afternoon was spent in discussion and speeches by delegates, leaders, various recent refugees and sponsors of the Committee For A Free Lithuania (ALT). The evening session consisted of entertainment in songs by Birute's choir and by Mrs. Giedra Gudauskas and Miss Elena Petrokas, both recent refugee arrivals from German DP camps, who wore colorful native garb and sang the lovely songs of "Dainava" (The Land Of Song) where the happy songs of Lietuva is replaced by fear, sighs and blood.

The most dramatic incident of the evening was the entrance of an aged man, Kostas Zilinskas, who alighted at the Chicago station but a half hour earlier and came to the Auditorium. He left Lithuania but 21 days earlier. He made no speeches, but in a faltering voice pleaded: "Gelbėkit lietuvius! Lietuviai naikinami! Amerikos lietuviai vienatinė jų viltis!" (Help the Lithuanians! The Lithuanians are being exterminated. The American Lith-

uanians are their sole hope for survival.)

There were accounts of the gruesome conditions in that land as perpetrated by the Bolsheviks that made all shudder and many weep. But how helpless the Baltic people are! They have no friend nor anyone who would plead their cause and intercede for them while a blood thirsty and cruel ally of the Western powers continues with its atrocities in true Hitlerian manner. And they are not called to account for it. Nor are they being stopped, but permitted to go on. While the Western powers merely shrug their shoulders and hypocritically say in effect, "Well, we don't like it, but what can we do about it?" For shame!

### Rapolas Skipitis In Chicago

On October 12th, at the Sandara Hall, a group of recent refugees met to hear the latest news and greetings from their fellow Lithuanians in the various DP Camps in Germany and France. Miss Leskaite and Mr. Skipitis, the most recent arrivals came to Chicago but a day earlier. Among those present were Jurgis Savaitis, the brother priests Klumbis, the Rev. Father Joseph Prunskis, Povilas Baltis, Vytautas Grikielis, Dr. and Mrs. Gudauskas, Mrs. Vladas Juodeika, Mrs. Aldona Bulota who is a Phys. Ed. Instructress at De Paul University in Chicago, Mrs. Sabanas, Mr. Salukas, Mr. Mockus, Mr. Andrusis, Sonia Pipiras and others.

Mr. Skipitis, who during Lithuanian Independence was editor of "Pasaulio Lietuviai" and president of DULR, was some 11 years earlier in Chicago as an honored guest and a representative of the government. LYS was one of the many societies that sponsored a special welcome for him. LYS had their affair in the hall of Mark White Square Park. Now, Mr. Skipitis is again in our midst, aged and weary. He related that the Lithuanians are existing under continual worry of uncertainty. There is a wide-spread fear among the Europeans, especially the DP people, that another war is in the offing; the absence of American soldiers troubles them greatly. Fear of Russian invasion of the rest of Western Europe preys on their minds. Their emigration to United States is limited; only 32 from all Europe may migrate, 17 from Germany, but priority is given to the Jewish people. Often only 2 to 6 Lithuanian gentiles get the opportunity to migrate. Lack of books and medication is also an item that troubles them greatly. The fear that UNRRA is about to disband is one of their greatest concerns. TB has made inroads in the camps. He expressed his deep concern lest apathy overtake the unfortunates in DP camps.

### The BALTIC STATES

LITHUANIANS BEING EXTERMINATED AS  
WERE THE JEWS

The Polish journalist, Stanislaus Mickiewicz, originally from Vilna, who now resides in Germany, wrote in the Munich, Bavaria, Polish journal "Idei i Dokumenty" a documentary article that should be brought to notice.

Mr. St. Mickiewicz, during his days in Vilna, was noted for his Polish chauvinism and anti-Lithuanian spirit. If he was driven to write such a sympathetic pro-Lithuanian article, we may be sure that the conditions in Lithuania are truly sickening. Reprinted in part. Translation — VFB.

"I've obtained a handful of news from Vilna and its environs. The news is frightful. What takes place there surpasses the brutality of the past war.

"We shall begin with the Lithuanians.... Today the Lithuanians are being exterminated, as were the Jews

during the German occupation. Lithuania is being relieved of its native population. The angel of death stalks throughout that region. We must forget our misunderstandings of the past with that people and remember only our common kinship. Firstly and above everything, let us all pray for the Lithuanians, as one would for a nation in its death throes. For that nation is now being exterminated, and let us grasp the fullest meaning of that word.

"During the past twenty years, beyond the previous borders of Lithuania and Poland, Catholicism was broken and destroyed. The very same process is now taking place in Vilna.

"The churches are being pressed with brutal expedience, while parish committees are weighted by unbearable huge taxation.

"Within the borders of Bierut's Poland a flirtation with the church goes on. During the church feasts one sees Soviet agents kissing the cross. Every workers' party commences its column or speech with the slogan: "For God and the country". Over there, just outside of the Polish borders, this very same church is being persecuted brutally. The jails are overflowing with priests, properties are confiscated and the holy places desecrated.

"But a few months ago, archbishop Jaldrybkowski was kept in the Lukiškis (Lithuania) jail, (being a Pole he was repatriated to Poland — VFB); when he was sent to Bialystok, he was met triumphantly with the greatest ado.

"We must notice that the Polish bishopry, in their last pastoral letters, didn't even mention the persecution going on outside its borders; nor did Bierut's Polish church government express any solidarity with the priests on the other side of the wall. It is also noteworthy that no one intercedes to the Apostolic Throne (Pope — VFB) to express protest regarding this matter. The Nazi leaders in Neurenburg were accused and persecuted for their persecution of the church.

"In the midst of the learned and of the peasantry as well reign an unheard off terror. During periods of search and investigation, if any one is accused, he is immediately shot, even tho the hands of the victims are raised. In the village of Mykoliškis, between Vilna and Narutis, 80 corpses were left in the middle nave of the village church. In the village of Lavoriškis, 8 of its 30 families were slain. Within the jails thousands die. One witness saw prisoners pushing over the snow this past winter, heaping corpses into boxes.

"The terror is so great that all the people desire to run somewhere. 117,000 people of Vilna registered a desire to move to Poland (probably claiming they are Poles — VFB). However, no permits are granted to anyone of the Eastern Orthodox faith; as a result many are trying to obtain Catholic certificates under any condition. Cases are known where families with several children had to pledge to leave one child behind in Soviet Lithuania.

"The unfortunates, upon arriving in Bierut's Poland, are met with a fate that is no better than what they left behind. As if pre-arranged, they are being robbed on their way and then chased from place to place as if they were homeless dogs.

"The Germans were killing the Jews, and the whole world was provoked by these acts (yet little was done to stop the Germans — VFB). Negroes, Hindus, even the remotest inhabitant of the Brazilian jungle knew of the atrocity on the Jews, and were angered. Now the Lithuanians are being slaughtered, and no one seems to know about it. Not even Warsaw. Not even the Bishop who held a conclave in Czenstochowa." (Czenstochova — the holiest Catholic city in Poland — VFB).